



GUNAKANTA DUTTA BORBAYAN
Akademi Award: Sattriya

Born in 1934 in Panbari village in Assam, Shri Gunakanta Dutta Borbayan received his initial training in dance at the Notun Kamalabari Satra in Majuli under Gopal Ojah Atai. He learnt Khol Vadya under the tutelage of Parmananda Bayan Atai who also trained him in the Ankia Bhaona. He has performed as Bayan in many temples of Majuli and played lead roles in Ankia Bhaonas.

*A respected teacher and performer, Shri Gunakanta Dutta has played the part of Barbayan in Bhaonas and Sattriya dances for many years. He simultaneously imparts training to pupils of his Sattra in Ankia Bhaona, other dance-dramas, and Khol-playing. He has performed extensively in Assam and other parts of the country. Under his expert guidance, students of his sattra have staged a number of Ankia Bhaonas composed by Sri Sri Sankaradeva and Madhavadeva. He has published a book titled *The Rajagharia Geet*. He is now serving as Vice-Principal in the Majuli Sattriya Sangeet College established in the Notun Kamalabari Sattra.*

Shri Gunakanta Dutta receives the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award for his contribution to Sattriya dance.